

the darkness couldn't out.

WORSHIP OF GOD | JANUARY 5, 2024 SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

First Rochester | An American Baptist Church

175 Allens Creek Road | Rochester, New York 14618 | rochesterfbc.org Rev. Joanne Gilbert-Cannon, senior pastor | Eliecia Young, pastoral assistant Henry Griffin, music director | Samuel Baker, organist

WORSHIP OF GOD

Feel free to use any gender-neutral language in hymns or responses.

Chiming of the Hour

Prelude Good Christian Friends, Rejoice!

arr. Marcel Dupré

Samuel Baker, organ

Welcome Rev. Joanne Gilbert-Cannon

(Children excused)

Call to Worship Ephesians 1:3-7 adapted for worship, jgc Marcia McCarthy

One: Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who

has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the

heavenly places,

All: just as God chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love.

One: God planned for our adoption as God's children through Jesus

Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will,

All: to the praise of Jesus' glorious grace that God freely

bestowed on us in the Beloved.

One: In Christ, we have redemption through his blood, the

forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his

grace. Let us worship God.

*Hymn 185 Hark! the Herald Angel Sing Wesley/Mendelssohn

adapt. Cummings

Scriptures John 1:1-5,14-18 RSV Marcia McCarthy

Special Music O Divine Redeemer Charles Gounod

Emma Unkrich, mezzo-soprano; Samuel Baker, piano

Morning Prayer

Sharing our joys and concerns

*Hvmn 200 While by the Sheep

German Carol arr. H.Jüngst Scripture

John 1:1-18, parts, The Message

Prayer for Illumination

Sermon

Our Best Intentions

Rev. Joanne Gilbert-Cannon

Giving our Gifts and Intentions to God with Prayer

Music for

 ${\it It\ Came\ Upon\ A\ Midnight\ Clear}$

arr. J.H.Schaffner

Response

Samuel Baker, organ

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Rev. Joanne Gilbert-Cannon Eliecia Young, assisting

We observe an open communion, all are welcome at the table.

Words of Institution

Unison Lord's Prayer

The Great Feast

Ave Maria

Charles Gounod adapted to First Prelude of J.S. Bach

Emma Unkrich, mezzo; Samuel Baker, organ

*Parting Hymn 716

 $God\ Be\ With\ You$

Rankin/Tomer

v. 1-3

Benediction

Thank you to others who contributed their gifts today: including reader: Marcia McCarthy; ushers: Dick and Judy Wien; fellowship: Dara and Ron Lewis; our nursery: Melina Mineti, Dara Lewis; our teachers: Nan Wilson, Betsy Vipperman; our tech team: Scott and Susen McClellan, Glenn Stahl, and Janet Richardson; and our musicians: Emma Unkrich,, mezzo-soprano; Samuel Baker, organist.

INVITIATION TO MISSION AND MINISTRY

We welcome you to First Rochester, regardless of race, class, gender, physical challenge, place of origin, or sexual orientation. If you're new with us, please fill out the connection card found in your pew and drop it with the offering. We look forward to getting to know you better!

Removing the Greens: Join us as we take down the greens of the church quickly after worship today and get them put away for the year. We could use your help as many hands make light work!

OWLS (Older Wiser Learning Seniors) will return to their Thursday program on January 9 with an introduction to a book discussion series on 80 Days Around the World by Jules Verne. Each 1st Thursday for the next several months we will look at one of Phileas Fogg's destinations. Chair exercise at 11:30 AM. Lunch and program at 12:15 PM. Donations welcomed. Please RSVP kandeetabor@gmail.com.

Are you an officer, chairperson, or do you convene a group at First Rochester? If yes, please submit a short report (one page or less) about your activities during 2024 for the Annual Report (electronically please) no later than Sunday, January 5, 2025.

Book Study Wednesday evenings in January and February: Join us as we read and discuss Executive Director of the Baptist Joint Committee, Amanda Tyler's book, *How to End Christian Nationalism*. Our first Wednesday night will be January 22 from 6:30 – 7:30 PM on Zoom. If you would like a book through the church for \$20, please see Pastor Joanne, Eliecia, or Janet.

FBCR Book Club will meet again on January 21 at 11:30 AM and will discuss *I* Feel Bad About My Neck: And Other Thoughts on Being a Woman by Nora Ephron.

Mark your calendar for the Annual Meeting of the First Baptist Church and Society to be held on January 26, 2025, following worship. The items which are required by NYS law to declare in advance for a Congregational Meeting are: vote on our 2025 Budget, recently updated Bylaws, and votes on the Board of Trustees nominees: Scott McCellan, second 3-year term and Ken Hines, first 3-year term. Other officers and chairpersons who will sit on the Church Council the church will also receive a vote. Annual Reports will be available on Sunday, January 19.

For information on the mission and ministry of the church, please visit our website at <u>rochesterfbc.org.</u>